

Appl. No. 10/043,438
Amdt. Dated October 5, 2005
Reply to Office action of August 8, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P14972-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3244

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 25-28, 30-31, 38-39, and 47-48; claims 40-43 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 25-28, 30-33, 38-39 and 47-48 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 25-33, 38-43 and 47-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stephens (EP 1 215 928) in view of Ahmavaara, et al. (US Patent No. 6,792,278). In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled the claims 40-43 without prejudice. Therefore, this rejection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot. The Applicant has amended claims 25-28, 30-31, 38-39, and 47-48 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

The Applicant's invention addresses the problem of setting up a connection over an access network that is appropriate for a particular type of communication. An example is disclosed, that of setting up a suitable connection for a group 3 facsimile transmission. As UMTS does not support such group 3 transmissions, it is necessary to set up a connection over a GSM network. In the event that a user of a wireless terminal has already established a connection over the UMTS network, a paging message is sent over the UMTS access network containing the identity of the preferred network, in this case the GSM network.

The present invention solves a problem that is not addressed by any of the documents. It represents a solution, which will allow different access networks to provide overlapping coverage for a multi-mode telecommunications device. The term multi-mode telecommunications device with respect to the Applicant's disclosure is defined as a device capable of communicating with telecommunication networks that operate on different frequencies or networks that operate using different access

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technologies. Examples are: in the case of different frequencies a 800/900/1900 mhz GSM mobile phone, and in the case of different access technologies, a WCDMA/GSM dual mode phone. If the mobile device is served by two or more access networks, a paging signal may be sent over an access network preferred by the sending entity. The invention allows for determining which of the connected access networks can support a particular call and then routing that particular call over the access network that can support that call. A paging message is sent to the mobile device that includes the identity of the preferred access network.

The Ahmavaara reference appears to disclose a system and method for providing contactability information regarding a mobile station. A database is created in a network, and a mobile station connected with the network sends information about all its subscriber identities (contactability information) to the database. The database includes the mobile station's location information, information about existing signaling connections and information about the primary paging channel monitored by the mobile station. The contactability information is updated according to changes detected in the status of the mobile station. (Abstract) Ahmavaara concerns a mobile device that appears to operate on a single mobile access network and supplies contactability information, including means for paging the device, upon connection to the network. An advantage of the Ahmavaara invention is that the paging channel load in the cells is reduced because no paging process is needed for incoming calls (Col. 2, lines 41-44).

A major difference between the Ahmavaara reference and the Applicant's invention appears to be that the Applicant's invention discloses sending messages via an access network containing priorities and in particular, paging messages containing network priorities. The Applicant's invention relies on a core network to determine the network to use and then sending that decision to the mobile device in the form of a paging message.

Applicant's claim 25 combination recites, among other features, "sending a paging message to the mobile telecommunication device from a core network specifying a preferred one of the plurality of access networks ...". This step is neither taught nor suggested by the Ahmavaara reference. In the Official Action, a correspondence is

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drawn between this claimed feature and the description of the reduction of paging channel loads found in the Abstract, C3, L41-67, C4, L1-9, and Fig.1. In this cited portion of Ahmavaara a paging message is sent to a controller, which sends the message on to a BTS. The message is broadcast on at least one paging channel. A targeted mobile station recognizes its own subscriber identity and sends a response message back to the switching center that originated the paging message. The difference between the Applicant's invention is that the paging message in Ahmavaara contains a request for response from a specific mobile station and the Applicant's paging message contains a preferred access network that the specific mobile station is to use, chosen from among a plurality of access networks. (

Also, Applicant's invention requires a mobile device capable of communicating on more than one frequency and/or more than one access network (GSM, WCDMA, analog, etc.) The database, referred to above, contains the pertinent information required to page the device and it includes existing signaling connections. Thus Ahmavaara is not able to communicate with two different networks at the same time, since the device appears to be of a single frequency/single access technology.

On the other hand, the Stephens reference appears to disclose a system that utilizes a dual-technology (dual mode) subscriber unit (mobile device). Thus Stephens provides the missing dual mode mobile device, but the limitation regarding including a specific access network in a paging message to a specific mobile device is not present in either the Stephens reference or the Ahmavaara reference. Therefore, both Stephens and Ahmavaara fail to disclose the subject limitation recited in Applicant's claim 25, and claim 25 and all claims dependent therefrom are distinguishable from the cited references. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the subject independent claims and the respective dependent claims.

With regard to independent claims 31, 38, 39, 47, and 48, a similar limitation of providing a specific access entity in a paging message is found in each claim. This being the case, each independent claim and the respective dependent claims are distinguishable from Stephens and Ahmavaara. The Applicant respectfully requests the

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withdrawal of the rejection of the subject independent claims and the respective dependent claims.

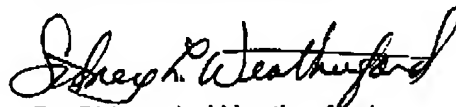
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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